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**Subject:** OSP Weekly Report - January 31, 2018

## OSP Weekly Report - January 31, 2018

### Regulatory/Program Support

- *Perchlorate in Drinking Water.* On Jan. 29 and 30, NCEA and OSP scientists attended OW's external peer review meeting of the draft report "Proposed Approaches to Inform the Derivation of a Maximum Contaminant Level Goal for Perchlorate in Drinking Water." Paul Schlosser (NCEA) presented the biologically based dose-response modeling that has been used to inform the proposed approaches. NCEA, NHEERL, and OSP have assisted OW over the last year in the development of the draft report, interagency review discussions and preparation of peer review meeting materials.
- *Dicamba brownbag discussion.* On Jan. 29, OSP hosted an OPP/ORD/Regions brownbag discussion on dicamba, a selective herbicide with potential to drift onto and damage neighboring crops. The purpose of the meeting was for regional staff to learn about OPP and ORD activities related to dicamba and discuss whether there are opportunities for additional scientific research.
- *Oil and Natural Gas New Source Performance Standards (NSPS) Technical Reconsideration.* On Feb. 1, OSP will represent ORD at the Options Selection meeting for Oil and Natural Gas NSPS Technical Reconsideration.

### PFAS

- On February 1, the Chemical Toxicity Assessment Workgroup on PFAS (under CENRS's Subcommittee on Toxics & Risk) is holding the second of two teleconferences to decide on issues to be discussed at the Federal Information Exchange on PFAS. The workgroup includes representatives from EPA, ATSDR, NIOSH, NIEHS, NTP, FDA, DoD, VA, USGS, USDA and HUD. Lynn Flowers (OSP) and Lynn Wilder (ATSDR) are co-chairs of the workgroup.
- On February 5-6, the Toxics & Risks Subcommittee (CENRS) is holding a Federal Information Exchange on PFAS that is co-chaired by EPA, NIH, and DoD. The goal of the meeting is to make progress toward a common knowledge basis to inform policy-makers across federal agencies and identify needs to inform a future federal PFAS strategy. EPA has a high level of participation in the workshop, including presentations from ORD and OW scientists. Lynn Flowers (OSP) will present *Current Scientific Trends in PFAS Knowledge: Risk Assessment*.

### Superfund

- On January 29-30, Diana Cutt (OSP) assisted regional Superfund staff by reviewing the Groundwater Remedial Investigation Report and the Revised Candidate Technologies Memorandum for contaminated groundwater at the Ringwood Mines/Landfill Superfund site in Ringwood Borough, NJ. The 500-acre site, located in a historic iron mining district, includes abandoned mine shafts and pits, inactive landfills and open waste dumps.

- On January 29, Jonathan Essoka, Felicia Barnett and Jan Szaro (OSP) held a scoping call with Region 3 Superfund staff to discuss a proposed effort to evaluate lead-contaminated soil at [C&R Battery Superfund site](#), a former battery recycling facility in Chesterfield County, VA. ORD's Site Characterization and Monitoring Technical Support Center will provide technical support throughout this evaluation process.
- On January 31-February 1, OSP and SHC, along with OLEM and the Engineering Technical Support Center Director, will meet to kick-off a project to identify common challenges at Superfund sites across the U.S. This effort will result in a white paper that identifies innovative science and technology that can be applied to help address these challenges.

#### **RARE Projects**

- *Harmful Algal Blooms.* On January 29, Amy Shields (Region 7 RSL) met with staff from Region 7, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, University of Missouri, and the City of Bethany, MO, to discuss harmful algal bloom and water quality data collected as a part of an [FY17 Harmful Algal Bloom RARE project](#). The meeting included a discussion of cyanotoxin issues in Bethany Lake and collaboration/data sharing plans for the upcoming 2018 sampling season.
- *Baltimore Harbor RARE Project.* On January 31, Jonathan Essoka (OSP) is hosting a project team meeting in Philadelphia, PA, for the [FY17 Baltimore Harbor Pilot RARE project](#). The project team, which includes staff from Region 3, the Chesapeake Bay Program and Marilyn TenBrink (NHEERL), will discuss key findings from the recent stakeholder meetings, review results of a literature search, and discuss the project scope.

#### **Wildfire Response**

- Beginning January 27, Terry Burton (OSP) assumed duties as the Planning Section Chief for the California wildfire disaster response. Terry will track resources, collect and manage data, sampling activities and risk assessments, and provide technical input to the Incident Commander and senior management at EPA and other federal, state, and local agencies.

#### **Embassy Science Fellowship Program**

- From Feb 1 – March 18, Diana Cutt (OSP) will travel to Belize as part of the [Embassy Science Fellows Program](#) to provide technical support in implementing proactive procedures for proper management of the country's groundwater resources. Diana will assist in activities such as conducting an assessment of drilling methods and establishing well drilling standards for boreholes. As a representative of the EPA, Diana will work in collaboration with the Department of State and the Belize Ministry of Natural Resources.

#### **Board of Scientific Counselors (BOSC)**

- The new and reappointed members of EPA's BOSC have been invited to attend one of two remaining ORD program overview conference calls, scheduled for February 6 and February 28. Bruce Rodan will provide the organizational overview and Tom Tracy (OSP) will describe the BOSC member responsibilities.

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